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Book Notes

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Box 20, Butler Library, New York 10027. And the *Guide to the Oral History Collection at Texas A&M University*, a fifty-page pamphlet listing nearly 400 tapes and transcriptions concerning biographies of former students who became general officers in the armed forces, agricultural history, early settlers of East and Central Texas, German coal gasification during World War II, the Mexican revolution, oceanographers, urban planning in Texas, and research in engineering and veterinary medicine at A&M. Copies are available for \$3.00 at: Administrative Office, Sterling Evans Library, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX 77843.

John Jenkins has produced a pamphlet entitled *Rare Books and Manuscript Thefts, A Security System for Librarians, Booksellers, and Collectors* which will interest at least those named in the title. The pamphlet is the result of Johnny's efforts as president of the Antiquarian Booksellers' Association of America to guard against theft and rape of rare books and papers. Copies may be obtained without charge from the aforementioned Association, 50 Rockefeller Plaza, New York, NY 10020.

Also available is a *Guide to Manuscript Collections, Archives of the Big Bend, Sul Ross State University, Alpine, Texas*. This guide describes the more than one-half million leaves of manuscript material available for research concerning the Texas-Pecos area.

BOOK NOTES

Every now and then, a major publishing "event" occurs. A few months ago the Texas State Historical Association staged, produced, and starred in such an "event" with its magnificent *Journey to Mexico During the Years 1826 to 1834* by Jean Louis Berlandier. The two volume, boxed work was translated by Sheila M. Ohlendorf, Josette M. Migelow, and Mary M. Standifer, with an introduction by C. H. Muller and botanical notes by C. H. Muller and Katherine K. Muller. Muller's introduction outlines the significance of the author and of his observations as a botanist for the Mexican Boundary Commission and as a collector of natural history specimens for European scholarly examination. The volumes contain excellent color plates of botanical and zoological specimens with descriptions. The writings of Berlandier are also rich in social observations of the peoples he encountered. It is available from the TSHA, Sid Richardson Hall, 2.306, University Station, Austin 78712, for \$75.00.

Volume VIII of Malcolm D. McLean's *Papers Concerning Robertson's Colony in Texas, November, 1833 through December, 1834*, is now available (Box 929, University of Texas at Arlington, Arlington

76019—\$25.00). This volume continues the saga of Sterling Robertson's efforts to establish a colony in Texas despite those of Stephen F. Austin to prevent his doing so. Topics covered in this volume, among others, include Robertson's notices to the public, certificates of admission to the Nashville colony, Robertson's presentation to the *ayuntamiento* of San Felipe, and a biography of Robertson. If you have followed the saga through the first seven volumes, you will want to continue the story, and if you haven't you need to catch up on this presentation of "the other side" of the Austin-Robertson controversy.

Bob Bowman, chairman of the Lufkin Centennial Commission, has produced a fine volume to document his community's history: *The Lufkin That Was* (Lufkin Printing Company, Box 589, Lufkin 75901). It is not only an album of photographs taken since Lufkin was founded as a rough-hewn village on the Houston, East and West Texas Railroad, but also a nostalgic look at the past of this important East Texas city. The photos mostly came from private collections in Lufkin, so this is your one chance to see many of them.

Journey to The United States of North America, by Lorenzo de Zavala, translated by Wallace Woolsey, has been published by Shoal Creek Publishers (Box 9737, Austin 78766—\$15.00). It is in the tradition of 19th century travel literature, and features the keen observations of this learned Spaniard who became an important figure in the history of Mexico and Texas. Zavala's observations on politics, slavery, and American cities and lifestyles is insightful and interesting.

Ray Miller's *Eyes of Texas Travel Guide for the Fort Worth/Brazos Valley* (Cordovan Press, 5314 Bingle Road, Houston 77092—\$7.95) continues the series which features special books for various geographical sections of the state. Viewers who are fortunate enough to see television coverage of Miller's weekly half-hour presentation of authentic TEXANA will enjoy his travelog and guide to the by-roads of Texas. His books are filled with photos and text coverage of interesting places to visit in our state. Earlier we noted the publication of his *East Texas Guide*, and it is also available from the Cordovan Press.

Texas Rich. The Hunt Dynasty From the Early Oil Days Through the Silver Crash, by Harry Hurt III (W. W. Norton Company, 500 Fifth Avenue, New York 10110—\$16.95), tells its story in the title. Hurt, who often writes for *Texas Monthly*, here chronicles the life of an Illinois farm boy named H. L. Hunt who made a fortune in East Texas oil. Hunt became known as an eccentric and an advocate of the most conservative political persuasion who was willing to use his money and power to advance his beliefs. Hurt asserts that Hunt's private life was even more incredible than his public myth, including stories of bigamy—three separate families—his attitudes on people and his fame as the

world's richest man, his health seeking adventures, and his exploits in the oil business. Hurt also writes of the public and private lives of Hunt's well-known children in the great silver crash.

David McComb overcomes his Colorado residence to become widely known as Texas' leading historian of urban studies. In his new and expanded edition of *Houston, The Bayou City* (University of Texas Press, Austin 78712), previously published in 1969, David re-examines Houston's politics, economic and business growth, and evolution of its social and cultural institutions. New material traces the roles of blacks, Hispanics, and women in the development of the nation's fifth largest and the state's largest city. I observed in a review of the earlier edition that Houston is exciting—it still is.

The 1981 edition of the *Panhandle-Plains Historical Review* is devoted entirely to a biography of W. M. D. Lee, Indian Trader. It was prepared by Donald F. Schofield of Amarillo. Copies are available at the Panhandle-Plains Historical Society, Box 967, W.T. Station, Canyon 79016.

Mary Sparkman Roberts' edition of Ervin L. Sparkman's *People's History of Live Oak County, Texas* (Ide House, Mesquite) is an interesting potpourri of data on this south Texas area. Photographs, maps, and illustrations aid this clearly written and fact-filled volume.

Vanishing Roadside America, by Warren H. Anderson (University Of Arizona Press, Tucson), with a foreword by James K. Ballinger, takes a look at the pop art along the southwest's highways. It presents the artist's view of scores of advertisements and signs which intrude on our right of passage to the point where most of us ignore them. The artist sees them differently, and his paintings bring a certain charm to what has mostly been ignored.

Charles Champlin's *The Movies Grow Up, 1940-1980* (Swallow Press, Ohio University Press), is an enlarged and revised version of an earlier publication, newly released. This book will entertain and fascinate my generation, which grew up on good movies. Nearly 200 photos illustrate Champlin's survey of the movies from their golden age through 1980.

The Gift of Christmas (American Association for State and Local History, 708 Berry Road, Nashville, TN 37204—\$12.95, \$10 to members) is a valuable resource and guide to Christmas preparations for those who revere the Victorian traditions. The book presents instructions for making tree ornaments, home and table decorations, and has party and game ideas for Christmas, all from the Victorian period. For preservationists and old house enthusiasts who want to be "pure" in their holiday activities, this book will provide a valuable help.